



Career and Technical Education: Preparing Students for the 21st Century

U. S. Department of Education
Office of Vocational and Adult Education
Division of Academic and Technical Education

Perkins IV: Title I – Basic State Grants

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) continues Congress' commitment to improving career and technical education across the nation. Perkins IV is the department's largest formula grant program for secondary and postsecondary career and technical education, providing approximately \$1.1 billion dollars annually to states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, Palau, and the Virgin Islands (collectively referred to as "states"). States receive Perkins IV funds under Title I (basic state grant) and Title II (tech-prep education). Title II is discussed under separate cover.

Title I grants are allotted to states through a formula based on the states' populations in certain age groups and per capita income. Each state is required to distribute not less than 85 percent of its Title I funds by formula to local education agencies, area vocational and technical schools, community colleges, and other public or private nonprofit institutions that offer career and technical education programs. Each state determines the split of funds to be distributed to recipients at the secondary versus postsecondary level. On average, 64 percent of funds are spent at the secondary level and 36 percent at the postsecondary level.

The state-level agency responsible for administering the Perkins grant may not spend more than 5 percent of its Perkins grant on administrative activities and not more than 10 percent on state leadership activities described in the legislation. Similarly, each local recipient may not spend more than 5 percent of its Title I funds on administrative activities.

A new provision under Perkins IV allows a state to consolidate all or a portion of its Title II funds with its Title I allocation and to use those consolidated funds for purposes described under Title I of the legislation. About one-third of all states have opted to do so.

Required Uses of Title I Funds by States

- Conducting an assessment of the career and technical education programs funded under Perkins IV.
- Developing, improving, or expanding the use of technology in career and technical education.
- Offering professional development programs at the secondary and postsecondary levels.
- Integrating academics with career and technical education.
- Providing preparation for non-traditional fields in current and emerging professions.
- Supporting partnerships among local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, adult education providers, and other entities to enable students to achieve state academic standards, and career and technical skills, or complete career and technical programs of study.
- Serving individuals in state institutions.
- Providing support for programs for special populations that lead to high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand occupations.
- Offering technical assistance for eligible recipients.

Timeline

Perkins IV was reauthorized in August 2006 for a six year period. Title I grants are awarded annually pending the appropriation of Perkins IV funding by Congress.

OVAE Contact

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Web Sites

Perkins Collaborative Resource Network – <http://www.cte.ed.gov>
OVAE – <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/cte/index.html>
National Association for State Directors of Career and Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEC) – <http://www.careertech.org>
Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) – <http://www.acteonline.org>
American Association for Community Colleges (AACC) – <http://www.aacc.nche.edu>

*The DATE mission is to help all students acquire challenging academic and technical skills
and to be prepared for high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations in the 21st century global economy.*